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This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

What is claimed is:

- 1. (Cancelled).
- 2. (Cancelled).
- 3. (Cancelled).
- 4. (Cancelled).
- (Cancelled).
- 6. (Cancelled).
- 7. (Cancelled).
- 8. (Cancelled).
- 9. (Cancelled).
- 10. (Cancelled).
- 11. (Currently Amended) In a telecommunication network having a plurality of interconnected switches, a method of adjusting a contracted rate of traffic for a virtual circuit comprising the steps of:
 - a) obtaining statistical data for the plurality of interconnected switches;
- b) identifying for each of the plurality of interconnected switches, virtual circuits that make excessive use of the network; and

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c) adjusting the contracted rate of traffic to form a modified contracted rate of t affic; |

The method of claim 1, wherein step b) further comprises includes the steps of:

- ad) counting the number of data points i, in n samples that exceed a threshold value R_{I_i} and
- gb) if the number of i data points divided by the total number of sample; is greater than or equal to R_2 , then adjusting the CIR.
- 12. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein R_I is a value of approx mately 25 percent.
 - 13. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein R₁ is a value of at least 18 percent.
- 14. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein R_2 is a value of approx mately 20 percent.
 - 15. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein R_2 is a value of at least 10 percent.
 - 16. (Cancelled).
 - 17. (Cancelled).
 - 18. (Cancelled).
 - 19. (Cancelled).
 - 20. (Cancelled).
 - 21. (Cancelled).
 - 22. (Cancelled).

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- 23. (Cancelled).
- 24. (Cancelled).
- 25. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing steps comprising:
 - a) obtaining statistical data for a plurality of interconnected network switches;
- b) identifying for each of the plurality of interconnected switches, virtual c reuits that make excessive use of the network; and
- c) adjusting the contracted rate of traffic to form a modified contracted rate of 1 affic.

 The computer-readable medium of claim 18, wherein step b) further comprises the steps of:
 - da) counting the number of data points i, in n samples that exceed : threshold value R_{I} and
 - <u>eb</u>) if the number of i data points divided by the total number of sample s is greater than or equal to R_2 , then adjusting the CIR.
- 26. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 25, wherein R_I is a value of approximately 25 percent.
- 27. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 25, wherein R_I is a value of at least 18 percent.
- 28. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 25, wherein R_2 is a value of approximately 20 percent.
- 29. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 25, wherein R_2 is a value of at least 10 percent.

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- 30. (Cancelled).
- 31. (Cancelled).